Specification Amendments:

Drawing Figures

Fig. 1 is a top view of a closure for a leak-proof drinking container.

Fig. 1A is the cross-sectional view taken as indicated by section line A-A applied to Fig. 1.

Fig. 1A′ is the same cross-sectional view as Fig. 1A, showing the container attached to the closure.

Fig. 1A″ is the same cross-sectional view as ~~Fig. 1A~~ Fig. 1A′, showing the recessed channel as part of the container.

Fig. 2 is the same cross-sectional view as ~~Fig. 1A~~ Fig. 1A′, showing the closure containing a spout. ~~multiple recessed channels as part of the closure.~~

~~Fig. 2A is the same cross-sectional view as Fig. 1A, showing multiple recessed channels as part of the container.~~

~~Fig. 2B is the same cross-sectional view as Fig. 1A, showing multiple recessed channels as part of both the closure and the container.~~

Fig. 3 is the same cross-sectional view as ~~Fig. 1A~~ Fig. 1A′, showing the recessed channel as part of both the closure and the container.

Fig. 4 is the same cross-sectional view as Fig. 1A′, showing the closure containing an alternate spout.

Reference Numerals in Drawings

10 Closure
11 Recessed channel
12 Container
13 Outlet passage
14 Fluid exit
15 Fluid entrance
16 Spout

Description-Figs. 1 through [[3]] 4

Referring to the drawings, the leak-proof closure of the present invention is indicated as reference numeral **10**. The closure **10** may be made of materials such as polypropylene, polyethylene, thermoplastic rubbers, or a combination thereof and can be reusable or disposable. The closure **10** is circular in shape, having a substantially planar cover portion and may vary in size depending upon the size of the container **12**. The closure **10** is shown without a vent means. If a vent is used, it will require a vent which opens at a predetermined pressure differential between the interior and exterior of the container **12**. When container **12** is overturned a partial vacuum will be created in the container **12**. The vent must not open as a result of this partial vacuum or liquid can leak from the container **12**. However, when in use, the liquid will be withdrawn from the container **12** creating a greater partial vacuum. The vent must open at this greater partial vacuum. The recessed channel **11** can be part of closure **10**, container **12**, or both. When container **12** and closure **10** are assembled by a friction fit or mating threads, outlet passage **13** is formed. In the preferred embodiment, outlet passage **13** is substantially a single loop helix, as shown in fig. 1A'. It might be desirable to insert mold or over mold a thermoplastic rubber or other flexible material onto either the closure **10**, the container **12**, or both in the area where outlet passage **13** is formed. This would allow for an improved seal between the closure **10** and the container **12**. The volume of outlet passage **13** should be approximately .060 cubic inches or greater. A volume less than .060 cubic inches would increase the probability of the liquid leaking from the container. The cross-sectional area of outlet passage **13** should be large enough to provide for easy withdrawal of the liquid from the container **12**. The cross-sectional area of outlet passage **13** should be small enough to prevent air bubbles from flowing past the liquid in the outlet passage **13** when container **12** is overturned. It might be desirable to vary the cross-sectional area of the outlet passage **13** making it smaller in some areas and larger in other areas. It might also be desirable for the outlet passage **13** to have a textured surface finish. The outlet passage **13** has

two ends, fluid entrance **15** and fluid exit **14**. In the preferred embodiment, fluid entrance **15** and fluid exit **14** are substantially radially aligned as shown in fig. 1A'. The recessed channel **11** is shown in unity, however it might be desirable to have multiple recessed channels which terminate at the same point or in close proximity with one another. The closure **10** is shown without a spout, however it might be desirable have a spout with a through hole which would provide for communication between the end of the spout and fluid exit **14**, thus extending outlet passage **13**. The shape of spout **16** is immaterial to the function of the present invention.

Operation-Figs. 1 through [[3]] 4

Container **12** and closure **10** are molded or manufactured then assembled. Recessed channel **11** is part of container **12**, closure **10**, or both. Outlet passage **13** is formed when container **12** and closure **10** are assembled. When withdrawal of the liquid in the container **12** is desired, external suction is applied at the fluid exit **14** of outlet passage **13**. This allows for delivery of the contained liquid which flows into fluid entrance **15**, through outlet passage **13**, and out of fluid exit **14**. When the suction is released the liquid in outlet passage **13** will return to container **12** due to the partial vacuum in container **12**. When container **12** is overturned, liquid will begin to flow into outlet passage **13** at fluid entrance **15**, which is at substantially the lowest liquid level in the preferred embodiment. The displacement of liquid from the container **12** will create a partial vacuum in container **12**. This partial vacuum will prevent the liquid from reaching fluid exit **14** if the outlet passage **13** has sufficient volume, thus it will not leak.